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A NEW SOUTHEASTERN RACE OF THE LITTLE BROWN BAT.

BY SAMUEL N. RHOADS.

In my "Contributions to the Mammalogy of Florida"¹ occurs the first, and, so far as I am aware, the only record of *Vespertilio lucifugus* (= "*V. gryphus*"?) from the extreme southeastern section of the United States. The series in question included six specimens in alcohol and two carefully prepared dry skins, with skulls and field measurements taken by the collector, Mr. W. S. Dickinson, from the animals before skinning. Their identification was made by Dr. Harrison Allen from the alcoholic specimens only.

Recently, in overhauling and labelling my collection, I made a more careful examination of this series. In consequence I find it necessary to separate the Florida form as a very distinct subspecies under the following name and diagnosis:

Vespertilio lucifugus austroriparius, Subsp. nov. Southeastern Little Brown Bat.

Type, No. 878, ad. ♀, Collection of S. N. Rhoads. Collected by W. S. Dickinson, June 23, 1892, at Tarpon Springs, Florida.

Description of type.—Smaller than *lucifugus* of N. Carolina and northward. Fur very short, fine and dense, about half as long as in New York specimens taken in the same season. Color above uniform, dull, dark brown, inclining to smoke-brown or dark chocolate as contrasted with the normal glossy, tawny and umber browns of northern specimens. Below brownish-cinereous, becoming lighter posteriorly and edged by a conspicuous margin of tawny white at the junction of wing membranes with lower half of body. Upper body fur slightly darker basally for $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ its length, the difference in shade between the brown-black of basal portion and the smoky-brown of terminal third of hairs only to be distinguished by close scrutiny. In *lucifugus* the contrast between these parts is conspicuous. On the lower parts this contrast is equally marked in both forms.

In the characters of the skull, save in the diminished size of *austroriparius*, I can detect no marked differences. The latter, how-

¹ Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., 1894, p. 157.

ever, has a relatively shorter and wider skull with more abruptly depressed facial plane in the three specimens used in this comparison.

Measurements of type.—Total length, 83 millimeters; tail vertebrae, 32; hind foot, 7.5. Skull: total length, 14; zygomatic breadth, 8; length of mandible, 10.5.

Specimens in the series date from the last of June to the middle of September, some having been taken in August, showing that this is a resident Floridian form and in no sense a winter migrant from northern latitudes. Neither is it to be confounded with *V. albescens* of Is. Geoff. St. Hilaire, differing therefrom in respect to the shape of tragus and coloration of the lower jaw, precisely as does typical *lucifugus*.

Of the names already given to a possible southeastern form of *lucifugus*, I find none which can be referred to as possibly applicable to *austroreiparius* except *V. subflavus* of F. Cuvier,² from Georgia. In Cuvier's description *subflavus* is said to have the tragus half heart-shaped, and the body colors are so light both above and below as to suggest a light colored *Vesperugo carolinensis*. Cuvier's *subflavus* is virtually unidentifiable, though Dr. Allen thinks it perhaps referable to "*gryphus*."

² Nouv. Ann. du Mus. Hist. Nat., 1832, p. 15.